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Mayor Barrett Urges White House Action to Prevent

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MILWAUKEE – Mayor Barrett sent a letter to Vice President Biden today in an effort to ensure American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars cannot be used for business expansions or relocations that would result in job losses elsewhere, a practice known as "job pirating." In the letter, he asks the Vice President for help in issuing formal White House guidance clarifying that ARRA dollars cannot be used for such purposes.

Stimulus Dollars from Being Used to Lure Jobs from One Community to Another

"This is a critical issue for Wisconsin as well as other states with a high concentration of labor intensive industries," Mayor Barrett said. "Workers in Milwaukee and across the nation would rest much easier knowing that they have the weight of the White House behind them and that ARRA funds will not be used to take their jobs away."

As a congressman, Barrett worked with Senators Kohl and Feingold to enact legislation preventing job pirating at the Department of U.S. Housing and Urban Development more than a decade ago, which is now public law. However, there are many federal agencies that still are not governed by these kinds of laws.